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INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE**Meese Is the Real Guerrilla
in the War Against Al Haig**

The real culprit in the "guerrilla campaign" against Alexander Haig was not White House chief of staff James Baker—as the Secretary of State thought—but presidential counselor Edwin Meese, according to Reagan aides. They note that Meese, who is anything but shy, remained uncharacteristically quiet and out of sight throughout the publicized feud between Haig and Richard Allen.

A White House aide said: "The key is that Allen reports to Meese and has his confidence; if Meese didn't like what was going on, he would have Allen sacked or put on a shelf. But that hasn't happened and isn't likely to happen.

Allen has been a team player, which Meese likes. Haig, on the other hand, has been a loose cannon. It's a personal thing between Meese and Haig. People around here think Haig is doing a good job when he sticks to affairs of state but wonder if he isn't more trouble than he is worth. As for Allen, as long as he keeps his nose clean, he is going to be around longer than Haig. Bet on it."

Throughout the brouhaha, Allen has been remarkably chipper. National Security Council staffers say that Allen welcomed the highly publicized Oval Office summons he and Haig received from Reagan to make peace, be-

cause it put him on an equal footing with the Secretary of State—the very thing Haig has sought to avoid.

Ever since Inauguration Day, when the Secretary of State tried a power grab, White House aides have talked of getting rid of him. But Reagan, who wants to project the image of a tight-knit administration, at least during his first year in office, has always rejected the notion.

The real backstage White House story doesn't involve Haig or Allen; it's the signs of a crack in the relationship between presidential counselor Edwin Meese and White House chief of staff James Baker. Meese is in the forefront of a move, promoted by the Heritage Foundation and other conservative groups, to expand the CIA's jurisdiction to include domestic counterintelligence; Baker is opposed to the idea.

Big Bucks for the CIA: Ronald Reagan may be opposed to big government, but that doesn't include the CIA. The President has endorsed a proposal to build a new seven-story annex to the agency's Langley, Virginia, headquarters. The building, which will cost \$100 million for starters, will house the agency's computer operations, referred to as "Snoopy."

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